

# eDeclarer

ACBL UNIT 499 NEWSLETTER



## President's Message

Some Folks Just Make Your Life Easier...

As my time as President ends, I would like to especially thank some current and past board members who have made this job much easier than it might have been.

First, the four women who have chaired the last five unit Sectionals, in chronological order: Lynne Humphrey, Carroll Brooks, Lynne Humphrey (she did it twice), Jackie Zayac, and Anne Hollingsworth. Each of these women brought her own skill-set and created very successful tournaments. Your efforts were much appreciated.

Two women who are no longer board members, but contributed greatly during their tenures, are Jane Malcuit and Beth Eggers. Jane was Hospitality Chair and did such a wonderful job, that no one has been willing to take over the position since she left. People must be afraid their efforts would pale in comparison.

Beth Eggers was vice-president and produced the first-ever Goodwill dinner. It was so successful that it will be an annual event.

We do not want to forget the gentlemen - Pete Boss and Bruce Johnsonbaugh. Pete served as our Publicity Chair for several years. He went about his job quietly and perfectly. We never had to worry if flyers would be ready on time, have the right information or be sufficiently supplied. Bruce Johnsonbaugh is a past vice-president, president, and has run our Youth Bridge program for several years. Bruce was responsible for updating our by-laws to better represent the way we do business now. He has also been very dedicated to bringing young people into the bridge world. Not surprisingly, Bruce has gone about his jobs in a quiet and understated manner.

Finally, many thanks to Judy Keilin and Mary Krouse, who each month, put out the very professional e-Declarer. They do this, in spite of the fact that not all the contributing columnists, (who will remain nameless J) get their columns in on time.

I look forward to remaining on the board for a while and helping the new Executive Committee continue moving our unit forward.

Trisha O'Connor

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### **Unit 499 eDeclarer**

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Editor: Judy Keilin

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Submit articles to [jkeilin@pacbell.net](mailto:jkeilin@pacbell.net)

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***Deadline for January is December 19th***

To submit a letter to the editor,  
send it to Judy Keilin at  
[jkeilin@pacbell.net](mailto:jkeilin@pacbell.net)

Be sure to visit the unit website for more information on our clubs and events, as well as archives of our newsletters.

[diablovalleybridge.com](http://diablovalleybridge.com)

## ...from the editor

Be sure to read the article about our Google Groups. I think we've worked out the kinks as to how to join, so if you're not already a member, please be sure to sign up. There's a lot of good information that emanates from these groups.

Some of us went to the Puerto Vallerto Regional in November. It was a great way to combine bridge playing with visiting a really fun place. There was lots of time to visit the beach, pool, and some of the great seafood restaurants, and still get in two sessions of bridge.

Keep on playing, taking lessons, and having fun at the bridge table!

Judy Keilin  
Editor

[jkeilin@pacbell.net](mailto:jkeilin@pacbell.net)



Mary Krouse, Publisher



# Unit 499 Milestones

\*\*\* NEW JUNIOR MASTERS \*\*\*

Vernie M Childress  
Bruce S Silverman

\*\*\* NEW CLUB MASTERS \*\*\*

Virgie R Van Hook

\*\*\* NEW NABC MASTERS \*\*\*

Betty L Argabright

\*\*\* NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTERS \*\*\*

Jinlong Jack Li

\*\*\* NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS \*\*\*

Rosemary Boss

## Unit 499 Online Directory

Would you like to be included in the new Unit 499 Online Directory? If so, please send an email with your name, e-mail address, home and/or cell phone to [jackiezayac@gmail.com](mailto:jackiezayac@gmail.com)

# UNIT 499 GOOGLE GROUPS

## What are they? How do I use them?

Unit 499 has two Google Groups (GGs) that are used to communicate with interested bridge players via email:

- diablo-valley-unit-499 – This group is used for unit news – special games, lessons, tournaments, miscellaneous news. Generally, these emails will come from clubs, directors, teachers, or the Unit 499 Board. This group currently has 296 members.
- bridgepartner499 – This group is used by bridge players to find a partner - at club games, sectionals, or other tournaments. This group currently has 215 members.

To use one of the groups, you must be a member of the GG. If you play bridge in ACBL Unit 499 and would like to join one of our GGs, please email the GG manager:

- diablo-valley-unit-499: Judy Keilin, [jkeilin@pacbell.net](mailto:jkeilin@pacbell.net)
- bridgepartner499: Lynne Humphrey, [lynnehumphrey@comcast.net](mailto:lynnehumphrey@comcast.net)

Send your name, email address, ACBL number, and how you want to receive GG email (see below). Then you will be registered with the requested GG group.

You have four options to receive your GG emails:

- Receive no GG emails, which means you will have web-only participation (You must have a Google account to access the group on the web – see below \*)
- Abridged Email: Receive one summary email of new email activity per day
- Digest Email: Receive up to 25 full new messages in a single email
- All Email: Receive each message as it arrives (We recommend this. Most days, there will be no email. It is very unusual to receive more than one in a day.)

Note: If you choose any option other than All Email, you may not receive the information in a timely manner!

To use the Google Group service, a member may send an email to:

- [diablo-valley-unit-499@googlegroups.com](mailto:diablo-valley-unit-499@googlegroups.com) - for news
- [bridgepartner499@googlegroups.com](mailto:bridgepartner499@googlegroups.com) - to find a partner

This email will be redistributed to everyone who is a member of this GG.

Note: This is the easiest way to send a message. However, if you have a Google account, you can also post a message by going to the GG webpage online. See below\*

When using the partnership GG to find a partner, it is helpful to describe your level of play, systems that you play, and when and where you are interested in playing. Include a phone number and/or email.

If you have any questions about either GG, contact Judy for the News GG and Lynne for the Partnership GG. If you think you are in a GG and never receive email, they can check your membership settings. If you are receiving emails and don't want them, they can discontinue your membership!

\* **Google Accounts:** If you choose the No Email option, you will not receive emails that are sent out to the Group. To access GG emails, you will need to have a Google account. You can set this up at <https://accounts.google.com/Signup>. Then you will be able to view and send GG messages by signing into your account and viewing the Google Group online:

News GG: <http://groups.google.com/group/diablo-valley-unit-499>

Partnership GG: <http://groups.google.com/group/bridgepartner499>

Keep in mind that you will not receive information in a timely manner unless you are checking the GGs daily.

Lynne Humphrey

## AND THE WINNER IS.....

Diablo Valley Unit 499! We have once again put on a successful Sectional Tournament. All those who attended know that Anne Hollingsworth, Tournament Chair, and her crew did an excellent job. Our great tournaments are due in large part to the active group of volunteers who bring wonderful food treats, stay to stack tables and chairs, and even take over the Hospitality Chair (Mary Quinn & Pam Edgley) without being on the board.

My time as president of the unit is up this month. We will have new members on the Executive Board and I know they will do a wonderful job.

The last two years, our Board has accomplished quite a bit. We created a new website, which is accessible and up to date. We also established the first Tunnel Tourney, an annual competition between Unit 502 and ourselves. Each unit has won one of the tournaments. 2015 is our year to host again, and you will be hearing details of the event next year. Please plan to attend and defend our trophy.

In 2014, we held the first Goodwill Award dinner, honoring all who have won this award in our unit. We are planning another dinner this May to honor the 2014 winner.

We also undertook the first ever 0-500NLM tournament at DVBC. The second tournament is already on the schedule for next September. We had some tactical difficulties during the first tournament, but they will all be straightened out by next fall.

The mission of the board is to promote the game of bridge. We hope that our efforts to bring new events to unit members have been well received. If you have thoughts on other contests you would like to see, please approach any board member with your thoughts.

I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a very healthy New Year.

Trisha O'Connor





# Introduction to Bridge

*For New and Returning Players*



**Instructor:  
Grant Robinson**

Gold Life Master  
ACBL Star Teacher

408-857-7240  
grantmrobinson@gmail.com

- Learn to play bridge
- Brush up on fundamentals
- Balanced overview of all aspects... bidding, play, and defense
- Hands-on learning
- Practice with mentored play
- Learn to play with any partner
- Course material from top teachers and players
- Meet other bridge players and make new friends

Open to all, reservations required

\$97 for series, includes Audrey Grant textbook

**Wednesday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Jan 14 thru Mar 11, except Feb 11 (8 classes)**

**Diablo Valley Bridge Center  
2920 Camino Diablo, Ste. 100  
Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
(925) 935-CARD (2273)**

# Improve Your Game

## Declarer Play

Looking at the hand to the right, determine your line of play before reading the Solution. You are South.

Partner opens 2♣, weak, and your leap to 5♣ silences the table. West leads the ♥Q. Plan the play.

NORTH	
♠	A Q 9 6 5 3
♥	K 8
♦	6 2
♣	10 9 4
♠	4 2
♥	-
♦	K J 3
♣	A K Q J 7 6 3 2

The idea is to set up the spades to discard diamonds without letting East in to lead a diamond. After all, you could lose three tricks in the two suits if East has the ♠K and West the ♦AQ. Another bad news scenario is East winning the ♠K and shifting to a low diamond, putting you to an uncomfortable guess even if the diamond honors are divided.

Unfortunately, the spade finesse goes directly into East and East will surely shift to a diamond. Can you figure out a way to keep East off lead even if East has the ♠K?

Duck the opening lead in dummy and unless East plays the ♥A, discard a spade from your hand! What can West do? In fact, if West doesn't cash the ♦A, it is likely that you will be able to discard all of your diamonds on the established spades and make an overtrick. Notice that dummy has three club entries that will help you establish the spades even if the suit breaks 4 – 1.

In fact, if spades are 4 – 1, West has to shift to a trump at Trick 2 to kill a needed dummy entry prematurely. If West shifts to a trump at Trick 2 and spades are 4 – 1 and the ♠K is not singleton, you will have to lead a diamond from dummy and guess what to do if East plays low. I have complete confidence in you. Also, go after West as partner rather than an opponent in the future.

In order to make this loser-on-loser play at Trick 1, you have to advance the play mentally, so to speak. You have to ask yourself what is likely to happen if the spade finesse loses and a diamond comes back? Some terrifying scenarios can be avoided by looking ahead. With luck, you will frighten yourself into making the winning play!

The West hand: ♠ J 7 ♥ Q J 10 7 5 2 ♦ A Q 7 5 ♣ 8

The East hand: ♠ K 10 8 ♥ A 9 6 4 3 ♦ 10 9 8 4 ♣ 5

The hand above is taken from *Take All Your Chances at Bridge*, by Eddie Kantar, by permission of the publisher, Master Point Press.

# Club News

This section is for club owners and managers who wish to submit news about their games. Please go to our website for information about all our clubs, game times, and to check on the latest results.

[Diablovalleybridge.com](http://Diablovalleybridge.com)

## ROSSMOOR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Gateway Club

Rossmoor



### STAC WEEK AT ROSSMOOR

Monday, December 8 through Sunday, December 13, is STaC Week at Rossmoor.

Kit Miller



### DUPLICATE SWISS TEAM EVENT

The Rossmoor Duplicate Bridge Club held a Swiss Team event on November 15. It was well attended with twenty-three teams of four participating.

## Blackhawk Duplicate Bridge

Blackhawk Country Club

December 3 - Unit Game in Ladies' Lounge

December 10 - STAC Game at Faz Restaurant in Danville. Game time is 9:30. We will play through and have lunch around 1pm. Lunch is a cup of soup and an entrée salad (choice of 2). No need to select your salad ahead of time. Cost for the day is \$28. This is a great deal. As you may know the cost of a day like this at a restaurant is higher than at the country club. Our bridge club is subsidizing the cost of your bridge game in order to be able to have this fun day. The country club has been booked on this day for at least eight months. We have a private room at the back of the restaurant with a beautiful view of their lovely patio. Gentlemen are welcome and encouraged to come.

Reservations are required for both games. Contact Lilah, or Jean Heninger 718-5176

Lilah Newton ([lilahnewton@yahoo.com](mailto:lilahnewton@yahoo.com))



**The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge Club**

The Moraga Evening Duplicate Bridge club will meet in **December** 2014 as follows:

Wednesday, 12/3  
Tuesday, 12/9  
Wednesday, 12/17  
Tuesday, 12/23

Games always begin at 7pm and finish about 10. Fee is \$2 per player. ACBL Open Club, with Master Points. Hand records. **YOU MUST SIGN UP IN ADVANCE** with: Winnie Jasper ([winnie@wjasper.com](mailto:winnie@wjasper.com)) for Wednesdays; or David Geary ([dsgeary@comcast.net](mailto:dsgeary@comcast.net)) for Tuesdays.

We meet at the Moraga Country Club, upstairs. On St. Andrews, a short distance from Moraga Way.

Recent results:

10/15 - 4 pairs

- 1 - Nancy & Lew Voils
- 2 - Winnie Jasper & Jerry Chamberlain
- 3 - Art Donaldson & David Geary

10/21 - 6 pairs

- 1 tie - Irwin Javinsky & Dick Halliday
- 1 tie - Colleen & David Geary
- 3 - Ann Elliott & Sheila Knoth

11/5 - 4 pairs

- 1 - Lois & Dick Halliday
- 2 - Sanda Henry & Colleen Geary
- 3 - Art Donaldson & David Geary

11/11 - 8 individuals

- 1 - Judy Sherwood
- 2 - John Sherwood
- 3 tie - Sue Rungta
- 3 tie - Sanda Henry

Regards, David Geary



**DANVILLE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB**

Veteran's Hall  
Hartz Ave, Danville



Effective immediately, the Friday morning game in Danville has a new upper limit of 1500 MP.

On December 10 the Danville Friday game will move for the day out to Oak Hill Park community center located at 3005 Stone Valley Rd. just before Monte Vista High School. The actual entrance to the park is on Glenwood Ct. which is right at the city limits sign on Stone Valley Rd.

I am exploring the possibility of starting a Tuesday afternoon open game in Danville. It would be held in the Vets Hall, Senior Center, at 1pm. I am interested in hearing from anyone who would like play in an open game at that time. If I get enough positive feedback, I will go ahead and start it. Please email [dvbst@hotmail.com](mailto:dvbst@hotmail.com) with your thoughts about such a game.

David Sterling



**Carol Griffin**

[nobidd@astound.net](mailto:nobidd@astound.net), or  
<http://www.carolgriffin-bridge.moonfruit.com>



Handrecords are now available at my Newplicate game.

Carol Griffin

# Tournament Results

Congratulations to those in our unit winning the following events at recent tournaments:

## **San Mateo Non-Life Master Sectional**

**Burlingame, CA (October 18- October 19, 2014)**

Sat Morn 99er Pairs - Marilyn Chaplin, Mel Chaplin

Sat Aft 99er Pairs - Marilyn Chaplin, Mel Chaplin

## **Mexican Resort Regional**

**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (November 3 - November 9, 2014)**

Thurs Eve Side Game - Winnie Jasper, Jerry Chamberlain

## **Diablo Valley Fall Sectional**

**Danville, CA (November 8- November 9, 2014)**

Sat Morn 299er Pairs - Betty Argabright, Felicity Warner

Sat Morn 99er Pairs - Chuck Silva, Susan Smiley

Sat Aft 299er Pairs - Gregory Reichert, Rainer Rungaldier

Sat Aft 99er Pairs - Rebecca Kunzman, John Kunzman

Swiss Teams, Bkt I - Daniel Friedman, Linda friedman, Sheryl Nagy, Ed Nagy, Nancy Munson,  
Robert Munson

Swiss Teams, Bkt II - Kathryn Von Dohre

Swiss Teams, Bkt IV - Cecilia Ip, Lee Stanhope

Swiss Teams, Bkt VI - Robert Barnes, Barbara De Heus, Max Creamer

## **East Bay Fall Sectional**

**Oakland CA (November 14- November 16, 2014)**

Fri Morn 750/1500/+Pairs - Robert Munson

Barbara Harmon Swiss Bkt 2 - Julia Gosnell, Michael Gosnell, Grant Robinson

Barbara Harmon Swiss Bkt 2- Kathryn Von Dohre

Anne Hollingsworth



- **SWISS TEAM EVENTS at DVBC** •
- **THIRD SATURDAYS** • February through October • 2015 •

**Game Time: 12:30 PM**

**Light Lunch Served at 12 Noon**

**\$40/team**

The Game will be Handicapped per directions on ACBL SCORE to give teams with lower master-point totals a boost when playing against more experienced players, OR strati-flighted if enough teams enter to accomplish this.

**LIMITED TO 24 TEAMS**

**Please make a reservation in advance on**

**The sign-up sheet at DVBC**

**Or contact Jerry Chamberlain**

**[JERRY@WJASPER.COM](mailto:JERRY@WJASPER.COM); 925-766-5228 (CELL)**

***Names • email and/or phone of team captain***

**NEED TEAMMATES OR A TEAM?**

**WE WILL TRY TO MATCH UP PLAYERS**

**Game Dates for 2015:**

**February 21**

**March 21**

**\*April 11\*(Second Saturday due to Unit 499 Sectional)**

**May 16**

**June 20**

**July 18**

**August 15**

**September 19**

**October 17**